

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/925,993

Examiner

David B. Lugo

Applicant(s)

SHARMA ET AL.

Art Unit

2637

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 9/27/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 19,20 and 23-44.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>20051012</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Nicole Cave on 10/12/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 20 (Currently amended) The method of claim 19 wherein the period of the delay is based on at least a duration of the transition period of the first signal.

Claim 23 (Currently amended) The method of claim 19 wherein the delay period is based on non-overlapping portions of the first delay pulse and the second delay pulse.

Claim 24 (Currently amended) The method of claim 19 wherein the priority value of the first signal path and the priority value of the third signal path are equal.

Art Unit: 2637

Claim 40. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:
means for detecting a transition of a first signal associated with a first signal path; and
means for disabling a second signal associated with a second signal path, the disabling
being based on at least a disable signal received from the means for detecting, the
disable signal being provided based on at least the detection of the transition, a
priority value of the first signal path, and a priority value of the second signal
path.

43. (Currently amended) A method comprising:
detecting a transition of a first signal associated with a first signal path and associated
with a first priority value, the detecting being by at least a first signal driver; and
disabling a second signal associated with a second signal path and associated with a
second priority value, the disabling being based on at least a disable signal
provided by the first signal driver to a second signal driver and the disable signal
being provided based on at least the first priority value, the second priority value,
and the detected transition.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 19, 20 and 23-44 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Durham et al. disclose post-manufacture signal delay adjustment to solve noise-induced delay variations, but fail to disclose dynamically inserting a delay in a second signal path associated with a second signal based on the detection of transitions of first and third signals on respective first and third signal paths, and respective priority values of the first, second and third signal paths, where delay pulses generated from the detected transitions via circuitry corresponding to the first and third signal paths are communicated to circuitry associated with the second signal path for determining a period of the delay, as recited in claim 19.

Durham et al. further fail to disclose a first driver detecting a transition of a first signal associated with a first signal path and providing a disable signal to a second driver associated with a second signal path based on priority values of the first and second signal paths and the detected transition, as recited in claims 29, 40 and 43.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David B. Lugo whose telephone number is 571-272-3043. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F; 9:30-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jay Patel can be reached on 571-272-2988. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2637

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

David Lugo
10/12/05

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. K. Patel", is written over a horizontal line.

JAY K. PATEL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER